

January 18, 1973

SENATOR PROUD: Well now, if this equal rights amendment that the women's libbers want passes, who would be the head of the family, couldn't they take the position that the woman was the head of the family just as much as the man and when I refer to the so called equal rights amendment I think it should be entitled the unisex amendment.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Well I, -

SPEAKER: Are you making a motion Senator Carsten?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Perhaps Senator Proud in those cases, they could merge the sexes and become one and be a neuter, but still retain the head of the family, ordinarily that goes to the individual who providing the rent, or making the payments and responsible for the payment of bills. I really don't know how to answer. There are more problems in this equal rights amendment than have ever come to the attention of the public, I'll say that. I'm trying to find in the, quickly here the definition of a homestead and I don't see it in this 1879 bill except that it says, "if the claimant be married", now a person can be head of a family and not be married of course it might be a widow or widower and a head of a family can in any circumstances be either the male or female, so a person could have adopted, I could possibly have three or four foster children in my home, or adopt some children and I could be the head of the family in that case, but generally as we think of it, I think we all understand it, it's the head of the family, a home maintained by, as a family home.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Cal Carsten.

SENATOR CAL CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the legislature, I rise to support the amendment of Senator Epke, I don't believe that we're ever going to be able to legislate the activities of any one family in the spending of their budget. I do think that we would be encouraging it if we went to the \$8,000.00 figure, encouraging this operation and we are certainly are not in a position to do that. I believe that the \$4,000.00 figure is more realistic and does update the legislation to a point, so I, as a member of the revenue committee do support this amendment.

SPEAKER: We're still speaking on the Epke amendment to LB 15, The Chair recognizes Senator Marsh, did you wish to be heard, The Chair recognizes Senator Burbach, still speaking on the Epke amendment.

SENATOR BURBACH: Mr. President and members of the legislature, I am not going to speak on the Epke amendments, I suppose I rise for a point of personal privilege. If you will look at your books LB 15 and 16 has been advanced to general file, you do not find a committee statement attached to 15 and 16, it is an error, I accept the responsibility for that error, I will explain, about 15 and 16, and explain the committee amendment which will be offered to us real shortly here, and you will have it, and if this is not agreeable then I would move that we hold 15 and 16, however, at the public hearing there were several who opposed and supported LB 15 and 16, the committee vote on both of the bills was five to advance and three not to advance, and no amendments were offered or considered. That is the committee report.

SPEAKER: Thank you, did you make a motion Senator Burbach to pass over.

SENATOR BURBACH: If somebody else wishes to object then so be it, if not we'll move along with 15 and 16, I just gave the committee report to you orally.